

Message Text

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12

ACTION NAS-01

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R 052030Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3818

WHITE HOUSE

DEA WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

UNCLAS PARIS 26204

EO 11652 N/A

TAGS SNAR TGEN FR TBIO

SUBJECT NAS STUDY OF OPIUM-DERIVED PHARMACEUTICALS

REF A. STATE 191700 B PARIS 17103 C PARIS 16544 (NOTAL)

WHITE HOUSE FOR SOADAP PETER BOURNE; WHITE HOUSE FOR DR. EGEBERG

DEPT FOR S/NM WELLMAN,CSI FOR YOUNTS

DEA FOR GARFIELD, BELK

DEPT PASS NIH FOR DR. NORMAN REYNOLDS

1. DRS. HARRIS, COCHIN, AND ANDERSON, ACCOMPANIED BY SCIATT, MET ON 3 OCTOBER WITH DR. BROCARD, SECRETAIRE GENERALE DE L'ORDRE NATIONALE DES MEDECINS, AND ON 4 OCTOBER WITH DR. CHARLES VAILLE, INSPECTEUR GENERAL DE LA SANTE; M. DUMONT OF FRANCO-PAVOT; AND M. FRANCKFORT, PHARMACIEN INSPECTEUR DE LA SANTE, MINISTERE DE LA SANTE PUBLIQUE.

2. FRENCH NOTED THAT TWO OPIUM-DERIVED PHARMACEUTICALS ARE ESPECIALLY INPORTANT TO CLINICAL PRACTICE IN FRANCE: PARAGORIC AND CODEINE.

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VAILLE FEELS THAT PRACTICING FRENCH PHYSICIANS COULD CONCEIVEABLY BE

CONVINCED TO CHANGE TO SYNTHETIC SUBSTITUTES IF REPEAT IF SATISFACTORY

SUBSTITUTES WERE AVAILABLE, BUT STRESSED THAT THIS CONVERSION REQUIRING AN ATTITUDINAL CHANGE BY PHYSICIANS WOULD BE VERY SLOW AND COULD CERTAINLY NOT BE DICTATED BY SUDDEN GOVERNMENTAL FIAT. TO COMPLEMENT INFORMATION PROVIDED DURING DISCUSSIONS, DR. VAILLE WILL PROVIDE GROUP, THROUGH SCIATT, MATERIALS ON ATTITUDES OF FRENCH PHYSICIANS AND ON PHARMACEUTICAL USAGE IN FRANCE. FURTHER, DR BROCARD WILL PROVIDE GROUP WITH COPY OF HANDBOOK ON NARCOTIC DRUGS BEING SUPPLIED TO EVERY PHYSICIAN IN FRANCE.

3. DR VAILLE STATED THAT FRENCH VIEW DRUG-ABUSE PREVENTION IN FOLLOWING PRIORITIES: 1) ELIMINATION OF DRUGS OF ABUSE FROM MARKET STRONG ENFORCEMENT AGAINST DRUG TRAFFICKERS AND BY STRICT REGULATION, CONTROL ON PRESCRIPTION DRUGS, 2) A POPULACE ENLIGHTENED TO DRUG-ABUSE DANGERS VIA MEDIA THEY TRUST, 3) TREATMENT AND CARE OF "EARLY" NON-ADDICTED ABUSERS, 4) CARE, CURE, AND READAPTATION OF HARDER ADDICTS. DR VAILLE NOTED THAT WHILE NO ONE IN GOF IS VERY OPTIMISTIC ABOUT CURING HARD ADDICTS, THE GOF HAS NEVERTHELESS LAUNCHED A PROGRAM OF "CURE" AND "POST-CURE" (REHABILITATION-READAPTATION) CENTERS.

4. DR VAILLE STATED THAT FRENCH ATTITUDE IN TREATING ADDICTS IS TO COMBINE PSYCHIATRIC COUNSELING WITH CLINICAL SYMPTOMATIC THERAPY. FOR EXAMPLE, A PATIENT IN A DEPRESSIVE STATE MAY BE TRESTED WITH STANDARD ANTI-DEPRESSANTS INSTEAD OF SPECIAL PHARMACEUTICALS.

5. AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED (REF B), FRENCH ATTITUDE TOWARD METHADONE REMAINS SIGNALLY UNENTHUSIASTIC. TWO FRENCH PHYSICIANS ARE NONETHELESS

CURRENTLY PERMITTED BY THE MINISTRY OF PUBLIC HEALTH TO PRESCRIBE METHADONE IN THEIR PRACTICES IN A LIMITED, REGULATED EXPERIMENTAL PROGRAM.

6. FRENCH VERY INTERESTED, HOWEVER, IN POSSIBILITY OF NARCOTIC ANTAGONISTS. DR HARRIS MADE AN OFFER TO PREPARE INFORMATION ON TESTS BEING INITIATED IN U.S. ON ANTAGONISTS, DR VAILLE ENTHUSIASTICALLY ACCEPTED OFFER.

7. DUMONT INDICATED FRENCH STILL HIGHLY OPTIMISTIC RE: BRACTEATUM-
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THEBAINE FUTURE POSSIBILITIES (REFTEL C)

8. TONE OF EXCHANGES MOST AMIABLE AND OPEN.IRWIN

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